AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1- 9 (Cancelled).

10. (New) In an overpressure valve (10) for a packaging container, having a base plate (12), which is connectable to one wall (1) of the packaging container and has at least one passage opening (16) and is partially covered by a diaphragm (13) that has at least one passage (27, 28), the diaphragm being joined in its peripheral regions (23) at least partly to the base plate (12), so that upon an overpressure in the packaging container, a conduit is created from the at least one passage opening (16) in the base plate (12) to the at least one passage (27, 28), in order to conduct gas out of the packaging container through an opening (3) in the wall (1), the improvement wherein the overpressure valve (10) is connected to a wall (1) that forms the inside (2) of the packaging container; and wherein on the side of the base plate (12) oriented toward the inside (2), a connecting element (14) is disposed, the connecting element (14) having a closed contour, and the at least one passage (27, 28) in the diaphragm (13) being disposed inside the contour of the connecting element (14).

11. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the at least one passage is embodied as a slit (27, 28).

12. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the at least one passage opening (16) in the base plate (12) has the form of two intersecting circles (17, 18).

13. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 11, wherein the at least one passage opening (16) in the base plate (12) has the form of two intersecting circles (17, 18).

14. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the diaphragm (13) covers the base plate (12) completely and is joined, on the side toward the base plate (12), to the base plate (12) over the full surface in a peripheral region that extends all the way around.

15. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 11, wherein the diaphragm (13) covers the base plate (12) completely and is joined, on the side toward the base plate (12), to the base plate (12) over the full surface in a peripheral region that extends all the way around.

16. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 12, wherein the diaphragm (13) covers the base plate (12) completely and is joined, on the side toward the base plate (12), to the base plate (12) over the full surface in a peripheral region that extends all the way around.

17. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 13, wherein the diaphragm (13) covers the base plate (12) completely and is joined, on the side toward the base plate (12), to the base plate (12) over the full surface in a peripheral region that extends all the way around.

18. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 14, wherein the diaphragm (13) has two layers (20, 21) comprising flexible plastic, the two layers being joined to one another over the

full surface by means of an adhesive layer (25), and the layer (20) of the diaphragm (13) oriented toward the base plate (12) leaves an edge (23), which extends all the way around, on the other layer (21) of the diaphragm (13) free, that edge (23) being joined to the base plate (12).

19. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 15, wherein the diaphragm (13) has two layers (20, 21) comprising flexible plastic, the two layers being joined to one another over the full surface by means of an adhesive layer (25), and the layer (20) of the diaphragm (13) oriented toward the base plate (12) leaves an edge (23), which extends all the way around, on the other layer (21) of the diaphragm (13) free, that edge (23) being joined to the base plate (12).

20. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 16, wherein the diaphragm (13) has two layers (20, 21) comprising flexible plastic, the two layers being joined to one another over the full surface by means of an adhesive layer (25), and the layer (20) of the diaphragm (13) oriented toward the base plate (12) leaves an edge (23), which extends all the way around, on the other layer (21) of the diaphragm (13) free, that edge (23) being joined to the base plate (12).

21. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 18, wherein the at least one passage (27, 28) is embodied in the region of overlap of the two layers (20, 21) of the diaphragm (13).

22. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 11, wherein the at least one passage (27, 28) is embodied in the region of overlap of the two layers (20, 21) of the diaphragm (13).

23. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 12, wherein the at least one passage (27, 28) is embodied in the region of overlap of the two layers (20, 21) of the diaphragm (13).

24. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the connecting element (14), on the side remote from the base plate (12), has a surface (34) that is uneven or rippled to facilitate joining the connecting element (14) to the inside (2) of the packaging container by means of ultrasonic welding.

25. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 11, wherein the connecting element (14), on the side remote from the base plate (12), has a surface (34) that is uneven or rippled to facilitate joining the connecting element (14) to the inside (2) of the packaging container by means of ultrasonic welding.

26. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 12, wherein the connecting element (14), on the side remote from the base plate (12), has a surface (34) that is uneven or rippled to facilitate joining the connecting element (14) to the inside (2) of the packaging container by means of ultrasonic welding.

27. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the connecting element (14), on the side remote from the base plate (12), has an adhesive layer (32) and can be adhesively bonded to the inside (2) of the packaging container.

28. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 11, wherein the connecting element (14), on the side remote from the base plate (12), has an adhesive layer (32) and can be adhesively bonded to the inside (2) of the packaging container.

29. (New) The overpressure valve of claim 10, wherein the base plate (12) as well as the diaphragm (13) and the connecting element (14) each have an identical rectangular outer contour (15, 22, 29) in plan view.